

Urban District of Barnes.

THE
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE
Medical Officer of Health

FOR THE YEAR

1923

E. A. FREEAR WILKES, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., D.P.H.Camb.
Medical Officer of Health.

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1924.

THE
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL OF BARNES.

Public Health Committee.

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Public Health Department.

STAFF.

Medical Officer of Health,

E. A. FREEAR WILKES, M.R.C.S.Eng., L.R.C.P.Lond., D.P.H.Camb.

Chief Sanitary Inspector,

C. S. PERCHARD, Cert.R.San.Inst.

(Certified Inspector of Meat and other Foods.)

Assistant Sanitary Inspector,

C. W. SLADE, Cert.R.San.Inst.

Health Visitors,

Miss PARNELL.

Miss McNISH.

Matron of the Isolation Hospital,

Miss PETERS.

Clerk,

C. WELLS.

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Summary of Statistics

for the Year 1923.

AREA OF THE DISTRICT IN ACRES:—

Total area	2,650
Area excluding tidal waters and foreshore	...	...	...	2,519
POPULATION (Registrar-General)	...	...	...	34,400
DENSITY OF POPULATION PER ACRE	...	...	...	13·7
NUMBER OF INHABITED HOUSES (1921)	...	...	...	7,958
PERSONS PER INHABITED HOUSE	...	...	...	4·3
NUMBER OF BIRTHS	...	...	...	558
Legitimate, 536 ; Illegitimate, 22.				
BIRTH RATE (Registrar-General)	...	...	...	16·2
NUMBER OF DEATHS	...	...	...	341
DEATH RATE (Registrar-General)	...	...	...	9·9
Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—from sepsis, 1 ; from other causes, 2.				
NUMBER OF DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE	...	...	...	26
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS	...	...	...	46·4
Rate for { Legitimate Infants				35
{ Illegitimate Infants				318
DEATHS FROM ZYMOTIC DISEASES	...	...	...	10
ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE	...	...	...	0·29
Deaths from Measles (all ages)				0
,, ,, Whooping Cough (all ages)				4
,, ,, Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)				4
DEATHS FROM PHTHISIS	...	...	...	21
PHTHISIS DEATH RATE	...	...	...	0·61
RATEABLE VALUE	...	...	...	£298,442 0 0
SUM REPRESENTED BY A PENNY RATE	...	...	...	£1,106 17 6

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

COUNCIL HOUSE,

MORTLAKE, S.W. 14.

May, 1923.

*To the Chairman and Members of the Urban District
Council of Barnes.*

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my Annual Report for the year 1923, recording the sanitary conditions of the District, and the preventive measures taken for safeguarding the health of the inhabitants, and improving the environmental conditions under which they live.

The report has been prepared in accordance with the instructions of the Ministry of Health as regards particulars to be included in the Annual Reports of Medical Officers of Health. The order of subjects followed in my Annual Reports for 1921 and 1922 has been retained for ease of reference.

The presentation of this report affords me the opportunity of expressing my appreciation of the support which I have received from the Chairman and Members of the Council, and of thanking the chief Sanitary Inspector and other members of the staff of the Public Health Department and the Staff of the Isolation Hospital for their efficient service and loyal co-operation during the past year.

I. VITAL STATISTICS.

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1923 and previous Years.

YEAR.	Population estimated to middle of each year. R.G.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.			
		Un-corrected Number.	Nett.		Number.	Rate.	Of non-residents registered in the District.	Of residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 year of age.		At all ages.	
			Number.	Rate.					Number.	Rate per 1,000 nett births	Number.	Rate
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
*1918	36,223 32,495	438	481	12·3	368	11·3	41	110	42	87·3	437	13·4
*1919	37,193 35,704	475	513	13·8	299	8·4	36	88	46	89·6	351	9·5
†1920	37,127	762	777	20·9	309	8·3	31	103	52	66·9	384	10·3
†1921	34,010	618	651	19·1	316	9·3	34	106	42	64·5	388	11·4
†1922	34,130	520	574	16·8	289	8·5	27	115	29	50·5	377	11·0
†1923	34,400	497	558	16·2	252	7·3	27	116	26	46·4	341	9·9

† Population as estimated by the Registrar General, and upon which the rates in the year are based.

* Population as estimated by the Registrar General for the calculation of Birth-Rates (higher figures) and Death-Rates (lower figures)

Rates in Columns 5, 7 and 13, are calculated per 1000 of estimated population.

Birth-rate, Death-rate, and Analysis of Mortality during the year 1923, with corresponding rates for England and Wales, 105 Great Towns, 157 Smaller Towns, and for the County of London for comparison.

The mortality rates refer to the whole population as regards England and Wales, but only to civilians as regards London and the groups of towns.

	BIRTH- RATE PER 1,000 TOTAL POPULA- TION.	ANNUAL DEATH-RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION.									RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS.		PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL DEATHS.		
		All Causes.	Enteric Fever.	Small-pox	Measles.	Scarlet Fever.	Whooping Cough.	Diphtheria.	Influenza.	Violence	Diarrhoea and Enteritis (under 2 years).	Total Deaths under One Year.	Certified Causes of Death.	Inquest Cases.	Uncertified Causes of Death.
England and Wales ...	19·7	11·6	0·01	0·00	0·14	0·03	0·10	0·07	0·22	0·44	7·7	69	92·0	6·9	1·1
105 Great Towns, includ- ing London (1921 Census Populations exceeding 50,000).	20·4	11·6	0·01	0·00	0·15	0·03	0·12	0·09	0·22	0·40	9·9	72	92·2	7·2	0·6
157 Smaller Towns (1921 Census Populations 20,000—50,000). ...	19·8	10·6	0·01	0·00	0·19	0·02	0·10	0·06	0·21	0·38	6·4	69	92·6	6·1	1·3
London	20·2	11·2	0·01	0·00	0·08	0·02	0·09	0·13	0·17	0·45	10·2	60	90·8	9·1	0·1
Barnes Urban District	16·2	9·9	0·00	0·00	0·00	0·03	0·12	0·03	0·14	0·12	7·2	46	89·1	10·9	0·0

POPULATION.

The population of the Barnes Urban District as enumerated at the last three Censuses is given in the following table:—

	1901.	1911.	1921.
PERSONS	17,821	30,377	34,281
Males	8,069	13,624	15,001
Females	9,752	16,753	19,280

The estimated mid-yearly population for 1921 was given by the Registrar General as 34,010, and the estimated mid-yearly population for 1922 as 34,130. This estimate allowed for an increase in the population of only 120 persons for that year.

For 1923, the Registrar General has estimated the mid-yearly population at 34,400, allowing for an increase for the year of 270 persons. As the increase of population by reason of the excess of births over deaths for the year amounted alone to 217, and the number of new houses erected and occupied during the year, mostly by families from outside the district, totalled 188, a larger increase in the population might have been expected.

The density of population has nearly doubled during the last twenty years. It is now 13·7 persons per acre, whereas in 1901 it was only 7·1 persons per acre.

BIRTHS.

The number of births registered in the District during the year was 497. After correction for inward and outward transfers the nett number of births was 558 and the Birth Rate for the District was **16·2** per 1,000 of the population. The Birth Rate for the year for England and Wales was 19·7, and for London 20·2.

Distributed according to sex and legitimacy the births were as follows :—

		Male.	Female.	Total.
Legitimate	... ..	279	257	536
Illegitimate	... ..	12	10	22
Total	... ..	291	267	558

The birth rate of Barnes fell rapidly and continuously during the war, decreasing from 22·1 in the year prior to the commencement of the war to a minimum of 13·3 in 1918, during which year the birth rate was actually lower than the death rate.

In 1920 the birth rate returned to a high figure, being 20·9, but has since continued to fall again; the birth rate for London, and that for England and Wales, has fallen since 1920 in about the same proportion.

The birth rate for 1923 is contrasted with that of the previous ten years, and with the figures for England and Wales and for London in the following table :—

Birth Rate per 1,000 of Population.

Year.	Barnes Urban District.	London.	England and Wales.
1913	22·1	24·5	24·1
1914	21·7	24·3	23·8
1915	19·5	23·6	21·9
1916	17·0	21·5	20·9
1917	14·1	17·9	17·8
1918	13·3	16·0	17·7
1919	13·8	18·2	18·5
1920	20·9	26·5	25·4
1921	19·1	22·3	22·4
1922	16·8	21·0	20·6
1923	16·2	20·2	19·7

Notification of Births Act, 1907.

The number of births registered in the District during 1923 was 497, and of this number 475, or 95·6 per cent., had been notified in accordance with the requirements of the Act.

The number of notifications of births received during 1923 was 485, and the sources from which these notifications were received is given below :—

Notified by Medical Practitioners	...	...	225
„ „ Midwives	...	...	250
„ „ Parents or other persons	...	...	10

Still-births notified numbered 10 : 7 were notified by Doctors and 3 by Midwives.

The percentage notified in accordance with the Act during 1923 (95·6 per cent.) has improved compared with the previous year. Medical Practitioners and Midwives practising in the District who failed to notify have been written to, reminding them of their obligations under the Act, and I hope there will be in future few omissions to notify.

DEATHS.

The number of deaths registered in the Urban District during the year was 252. Of these 27 were deaths of persons who were not “ residents ” of the District, and 225 were deaths of “ residents.” To obtain the correct number of deaths, representing the true mortality amongst the population, it is necessary to add 116 deaths of “ residents ” whose deaths occurred outside the Urban District.

The corrected number of deaths belonging to the district = 341. This number represents a death rate of **9.9** per 1,000 of the population. The death rate for the year for England and Wales was 11·6, and for London 11·2.

The death rate for 1923 is contrasted with that for the previous ten years, and with the death rates during the corresponding period for England and Wales, and for London, in the following table :—

Table shewing Causes of, and Ages at, Death during the year 1923.

Causes of Death.	Nett Deaths of Residents whether dying within or outside the District.														Deaths of Residents Dying in the Urban District.	Deaths of Residents Dying outside the Urban District.	
	Nett Deaths in or belonging to whole District at subjoined ages.										Deaths in or belonging to Localities (at all ages).		Total Deaths Sex Distribution.				Deaths in Institutions.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2.	2 and under 5.	5 and under 15.	15 and under 25.	25 and under 45.	45 and under 65.	65 and upwards.	Barnes.	Mortlake.	Male.	Female.				
Enteric Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Scarlet Fever ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	1	
Whooping Cough ...	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	1	—	4	—	
Diphtheria and Croup ..	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	
Influenza ..	5	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	—	1	4	2	3	1	4	1	
Encephalitis Lethargica	2	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	2	—	
Meningococcal Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	21	—	—	—	1	3	8	9	—	10	11	14	7	7	16	5	
Other Tuberculous Diseases	3	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	—	—	3	2	1	2	2	1	
Cancer, malignant disease	46	—	—	—	—	—	3	14	29	20	26	22	24	9	31	15	
Rheumatic Fever ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	1	—	
Diabetes ..	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	2	2	2	1	3	3	1	3	
Cerebral Hæmorrhage ...	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	13	7	9	8	8	2	13	3	
Heart Disease ...	36	—	—	—	—	—	5	14	17	15	21	18	18	10	22	14	
Arterio-sclerosis ..	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	8	7	4	5	6	1	10	1	
Bronchitis ..	27	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	23	12	15	13	14	8	19	8	
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	16	2	1	3	2	—	2	1	5	9	7	10	6	3	13	3	
Other diseases of Respiratory organs ..	8	1	1	—	—	—	1	—	5	4	4	5	3	3	4	4	
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum ...	4	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	3	1	3	1	2	1	3	
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	4	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	3	1	1	3	1	
Appendicitis and Typhlitis	5	—	—	—	2	1	—	2	—	2	3	2	3	3	1	4	
Cirrhosis of Liver ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	2	2	—	—	2	—	
Nephritis and Bright's Disease ...	12	—	—	—	—	1	2	5	4	4	8	5	7	3	4	8	
Puerperal sepsis ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	—	
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	—	1	1	—	2	—	2	—	
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	7	9	2	3	8	3	
Suicide ...	88	—	—	—	—	2	4	2	—	7	1	6	2	—	5	3	
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide ...	4	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	—	1	3	2	2	1	3	1	
Other defined diseases ..	86	4	—	4	4	1	11	12	50	36	50	34	52	31	52	34	
Causes ill-defined or unknown ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	
All causes ...	341	26	2	9	14	9	43	81	157	146	195	172	169	94	225	116	

Death Rate per 1,000 of Population.

Year.	Barnes Urban District.	London.	England and Wales.
1913	10·5	14·2	13·8
1914	9·6	14·4	14·0
1915	11·3	16·8	15·7
1916	10·5	14·7	14·4
1917	11·6	15·7	14·4
1918	13·4	19·2	17·6
1919	9·5	13·6	13·7
1920	10·3	12·4	12·4
1921	11·4	12·4	12·1
1922	11·0	13·4	12·9
1923	9·9	11·2	11·6

The death-rate for the District has been consistently lower than that for London, or England and Wales. The death-rate for 1923 of 9·9 is a very satisfactory low rate. The actual number of deaths assignable to the District after correction for inward and outward transfers during 1923, namely 341, was markedly lower than the number of deaths for each of the three previous years (the latter being 377 in 1922, 388 in 1921 and 384 in 1920) in spite of the population having considerably increased.

Causes of Death.

The total (corrected) deaths for the whole District are shown in the accompanying table on the opposite page, classified under various causes of death, and, in addition, distributed for age, sex and locality.

Certain causes of death which are important in themselves or because they are responsible for a large proportion of the total mortality, have further reference made to them in the following table :—

Cause of Death.	Number of Deaths in previous 5 years.					Deaths in	Death Rate per 1,000 Population for 1922.	
	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923	Barnes Urban District.	London.
Zymotic (Epidemic)								
Diseases	31	12	25	16	15	10	0·29	0·55
Influenza	86	24	7	8	15	5	0·14	0·17
Bronchitis	26	27	28	27	27	27	0·78	0·83
Pneumonia	29	23	21	27	25	16	0·47	0·94
Tuberculosis ..	35	30	20	35	30	24	0·70	1·11
Cancer	35	39	39	56	41	46	1·34	1·34
Heart Disease ...	38	35	31	31	46	36	1·05	1·58
Bright's Disease ...	6	4	12	6	12	12	0·35	0·32
Puerperal Fever ...	2	1	4	—	1	1	0·03	0·03
Diseases and Accidents of Child-birth	1	—	3	2	2	2	0·06	0·03
Premature Birth, &c.	20	22	18	19	8	9	0·26	0·46
Violence and Suicide	14	17	23	9	16	12	0·35	0·45

Zymotic Diseases. The diseases included under the heading of zymotic diseases are Small-pox, Enteric Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, Diphtheria, and Diarrhœa under two years of age. These diseases were responsible for 10 deaths, representing a zymotic death-rate of **0·29** per 1,000 of population, contrasted with a zymotic death-rate of 0·50 for London and 0·55 for England and Wales.

The death-rate for each of the seven zymotic diseases is given separately below :—

Disease.	Barnes.	London.	England & Wales.
Small-pox	0·00	0·00	0·00
Enteric Fever	0·00	0·01	0·01
Measles	0·00	0·08	0·14
Scarlet Fever	0·03	0·02	0·03
Whooping Cough ...	0·12	0·09	0·10
Diphtheria	0·03	0·13	0·07
Diarrhœa (under 2 years)	0·12	0·21	0·15

As the zymotic death rate is, with certain reservations, taken as an indication of the sanitary condition of a district, the above statistics show a very favourable position.

One death occurred from Scarlet Fever, 4 from Whooping Cough, 1 from Diphtheria, and 4 from epidemic Diarrhœa. No deaths occurred from either Small-pox, Enteric Fever or Measles.

Bronchitis, Pneumonia and other diseases of the respiratory organs were responsible for 53 deaths.

Tuberculosis. Pulmonary Tuberculosis caused 21 deaths, a death-rate of 0·61 per 1,000 of population. Seven of these deaths occurred in Institutions—4 in the Isolation Hospital, 2 in the Poor-law Infirmary, and 1 in an institution outside the District.

Cancer. There were 46 deaths from Cancer, 9 occurring in institutions outside the District.

Puerperal Fever. One death occurred from this disease during the year.

Diseases and Accidents of Child Birth. There were two deaths from this cause.

Deaths in Public Institutions.

Of the 341 nett deaths assignable to the District, 94, or 27·6 per cent. occurred in Public Institutions.

Of the 225 “residents” who died in the District, 6 died in an Institution, viz., the Isolation Hospital.

Of the 116 “residents” whose death occurred outside the District, 88 died in Public Institutions, 38 of them dying in the Richmond Poor-law Institution, and 50 in other Institutions beyond the District (namely, 43 in General and Special Hospitals, 6 in Mental Hospitals, and 1 in a Poor-law Institution).

Inquests.

Inquests were held in respect of 37, or 10·9 per cent. of the 341 deaths assignable to the District. The causes of death in these cases were as follows:—

Deaths from suicide	...	...	8
Violent deaths, excluding suicide			4
Deaths from natural causes	...		25

Infantile Mortality.

The deaths of infants under 1 year of age numbered 26, representing a rate of Infantile Mortality of **46** per 1,000 registered births, the Infantile Mortality rate for England and Wales being 69 and for London 60 per 1,000 registered births for the corresponding period.

Infantile Mortality has steadily declined during the past twenty years.

The decline in the rate of Infantile Mortality in Barnes from 127 per 1000 registered births in the quinquennium 1901-1905 to 46 in the present year is shown below. The rates for London and for England and Wales are given for comparative purposes.

Period.	Barnes.	London.	England & Wales.
1901-1905	127	139	138
1906-1910	91	114	117
1911	95	129	130
1912	59	91	95
1913	84	105	108
1914	63	104	105
1915	84	114	110
1916	65	89	91
1917	69	104	97
1918	87	108	97
1919	90	85	89
1920	67	75	80
1921	65	80	83
1922	51	74	77
1923	46	60	69

Compared with the Infantile Mortality for this District of 134 per thousand registered births in 1904 the rate of 46 for the present year shows a reduction of 66 per cent. The death rate amongst infants under one year of age is at the present time only one third the death-rate of twenty years ago.

The rate of Infantile Mortality for 1922 was considerably below the lowest ever recorded for the District: the further reduction from 51 per thousand registered births for that year to 46 per thousand for 1923 is therefore most gratifying, and unquestionably

this decrease is largely a direct consequence of the excellent work performed in connection with the Maternity and Child Welfare Centre and by the Health Visitors in their home-visiting.

It should be observed that this very low rate of Infantile Mortality is approaching an irreducible minimum; this fact becomes apparent on analysing the causes of death and the early age at which these operate, a certain proportion of the deaths arising out of circumstances we can never hope to combat.

The causes of death in infants dying under one year of age are analysed in the accompanying table (on page 12), which shows the distribution for age-groups and for localities.

It will be observed that of the 26 deaths, 8 occurred amongst infants belonging to Barnes and 18 amongst infants belonging to Mortlake, but it is to be borne in mind that the number of births in Barnes to those in Mortlake is approximately the proportion of 2 to 3.

Of the 26 total deaths, 6 were deaths of infants who, though belonging to this District, died outside the Urban District.

Considering the age-periods in which the deaths occurred, it is extremely important to note that in the case of 14 deaths, representing over 50 per cent. of the total mortality, death occurred before the infants had reached the age of 4 weeks, and of these 14 deaths, as many as 12 occurred during the first week of life—nearly half of the total deaths. It is evident that to effect any further reduction in the infantile death-rate, it is necessary for preventive measures to be brought to bear at the earliest possible moment of an infant's life.

Considering the causes that led to the death of these 26 infants, 3 were newly-born infants on whom inquests were held, having been "Found Dead," and 5 others died before they were one day old from Premature Birth or Congenital Malformations. From the same causes 4 other infants died, on the 2nd, 4th, and 9th days respectively, making a total of 12 deaths from these causes before the 9th day after birth. Five other infants died at the age of one month, the causes of death in these cases being Premature Birth (2), Diarrhœa, Pneumonia, and Whooping Cough following an operation. Seventeen of the infants had therefore died by the time this age had been reached.

Infant Mortality during the Year 1922.

Nett Deaths from stated Causes, at various Ages, under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.	Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 4 Weeks.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total under 1 Year.	Barnes.	Mortlake.	Deaths in the Urban District.	Deaths outside the Urban District.	Deaths in Institut'ns.
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chicken-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	1	3	—	3	3	—	—
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculous Meningitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	1	1	—	—
Abdominal Tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Tuberculous Disease ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Convulsions ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Laryngitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Bronchitis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia (all forms) ..	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	—	2	1	1	1	1	1
Diarrhœa and Enteritis ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	3	—	—	4	—	4	3	1	1
Gastritis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Syphilis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Rickets ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atrophy Debility and Marasmus	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Premature Birth	8	—	—	1	9	1	—	—	—	10	3	7	7	3	3
Congenital Malformations ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	—	1	—	—
Injury at Birth	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Atelectasis ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Suffocation (overlying) ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Violence ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other causes ...	3	—	—	—	3	—	2	—	—	5	3	2	4	1	—
All causes ...	12	1	—	1	14	3	6	2	1	26	8	18	20	6	5

Nett Births in the Year: Total Births, 558; Legitimate, 536; Illegitimate, 22.

Nett Deaths (under 1 year): Total Deaths, 26; Legitimate Infants, 19; Illegitimate Infants, 7.

Infantile Mortality Rate: Total, 46; Legitimate, 35; Illegitimate, 318.

The rate of Infantile Mortality amongst illegitimate infants is very much higher than amongst legitimate infants. Of the 26 deaths that occurred under 1 year of age, 7 were deaths of illegitimate infants.

There were 536 births of legitimate children during 1923, and only 19 deaths occurred amongst legitimate infants under one year of age, whereas in the case of illegitimate infants, whilst there were only 22 illegitimate births, the number of deaths of illegitimate infants numbered 7 in the year. This gives an Infantile Mortality rate amongst legitimate infants of 35 per 1,000 legitimate births contrasted with a rate amongst illegitimate infants of 318 per 1,000 illegitimate births registered.

Illegitimacy increased during the years of war, and the rate of Infantile Mortality amongst these infants rose to a very high figure. Illegitimacy has since decreased, but the mortality rate remains very high. The following table gives the figures for the period 1914-1923.

Year.	Proportion of Illegitimate Births per 1,000 Total Births Registered.	Infantile Mortality.	
		Deaths of Legitimate Infants per 1,000 Legitimate Births.	Deaths of Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 Illegitimate Births.
1914	50	63	83
1915	43	65	519
1916	52	48	380
1917	81	54	238
1918	86	83	132
1919	51	70	461
1920	41	56	312
1921	51	58	182
1922	45	38	308
1923	39	35	318

In the case of all illegitimate births notified, the infants are specially "followed-up" and kept under supervision to endeavor to reduce the high death-rate amongst them.

2. NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

The following are the Infectious Diseases compulsorily notifiable in the District, and the number of cases notified during 1923 is given for each disease.

Diphtheria	...	...	20	Cerebro Spinal Fever	—		
Scarlet Fever	...	...	74	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	3	
Enteric Fever	...	...	1	Ophthalmia Neonatorum		3	
Puerperal Fever		...	3	Measles	...	...	76
Erysipelas	...	...	9	Rubella	...	...	6
Continued Fever		...	—	Encephalitis Lethargica			2
Relapsing Fever	...	...	—	Acute Polioencephalitis			—
Typhus Fever	...	...	—	Malaria	...	...	—
Small Pox	...	...	—	Dysentery	...	...	—
Cholera	...	...	—	Trench Fever		...	—
Plague	...	...	—	Pneumonia	...	...	26
Tuberculosis	...	...	45	Anthrax	...	...	—

Table showing the Notifications of Infectious Diseases received during 1923 arranged in four-weekly periods:—

Four-weekly period ending	Diphtheria.	Scarlet Fever.	Measles.	Enteric.	Pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Non-pulmonary Tuberculosis.	Pneumonia.	Erysipelas.	Puerperal Fever	Ophthalmia Neonatorum.	Poliomyelitis.	Encephalitis Lethargica.
Jan. 27	1	3	5	—	3	1	—	—	1	2	—	—
Feb. 24	3	5	1	—	2	2	4	1	1	—	—	—
Mar. 24	2	6	3	—	4	—	5	—	—	—	—	—
April 21	3	5	13	—	4	3	3	2	—	—	—	—
May 19	1	4	5	—	2	—	2	2	—	—	—	—
June 16	—	7	18	—	4	1	—	1	—	—	—	1
July 14	—	14	6	—	1	—	2	1	—	—	—	—
Aug. 11	1	3	3	1	4	1	1	—	—	1	—	—
Sept. 8	2	7	4	—	2	1	1	—	—	—	—	1
Oct. 6	3	4	3	—	2	1	—	1	—	—	2	—
Nov. 3	2	9	3	—	1	1	1	—	1	—	1	—
Dec. 1	—	3	2	—	4	—	4	1	—	—	—	—
Dec. 31	2	4	10	—	1	—	3	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	20	74	76	1	34	11	26	9	3	3	3	2

Table showing the distribution in age-groups of the cases notified during 1923, the number of cases removed to hospital, and the total numbers of deaths in the District from these diseases.—

Diseases.	Total Cases Notified.	Ages, in years.													Parish.		Removed to Hospital.	Total Deaths of Residents. §
		Under 1 year.	1 to 2.	2 to 3.	3 to 4.	4 to 5.	5 to 10.	10 to 15.	15 to 20.	20 to 25.	25 to 35.	35 to 45.	45 to 65.	65 and over.	Barnes	Mortlake.		
Diphtheria ...	20	1	—	3	2	—	9	2	2	1	—	—	—	—	11	9	17	1
Scarlet Fever ...	74	—	3	6	6	2	30	11	6	4	5	1	—	—	39	35	69	—
Enteric Fever ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Puerperal Fever ...	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	1	2	—	1
Pneumonia ...	26	1	2	—	1	—	5	—	2	1	2	5	4	3	6	20	4	13
Pul. Tuberculosis ...	34	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	3	7	8	6	5	2	12	22	25	16
Non-Pul. Tuberculosis	11	2	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	—	1	—	—	1	3	8	1	2
Erysipelas ..	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	3	3	—	2	3	6	1	—
Ophth. Neonatorum ..	3	3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	1	—
Ant. Poliomyelitis ..	3	—	—	—	—	—	2	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	1
Enc. Lethargica ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	2
Measles ...	76	5	3	3	4	2	31	18	2	3	1	3	1	—	30	46	—	—
Lubella ...	6	—	—	—	2	—	—	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	6	—	—	—
<hr/>																		
All Diseases ...	268	12	8	12	15	4	79	44	18	16	24	18	10	8	114	154	120	36

Twenty-six Tuberculosis patients were removed to Institutions—17 to Sanatoriums and 9 to Barnes Isolation Hospital.

The deaths recorded in this column are the total corrected number of deaths assignable to the District, and are not necessarily deaths of persons recorded as notified during the year.

For purposes of comparison of the incidence of notifiable diseases occurring in the District, a Table is given below of the cases notified during 1923 and during the previous 10 years.

Year.	1913	1914	1915	1916	1917	1918	1919	1920	1921	1922	1923
Diphtheria ...	67	56	41	34	28	29	42	103	90	65	20
Scarlet Fever...	95	153	137	94	37	32	88	69	108	100	74
Enteric Fever	1	2	3	2	6	—	—	3	1	—	1
Puerperal Fever	—	—	6	1	—	3	2	4	—	1	3
Erysipelas ...	16	11	12	8	8	2	13	13	6	6	9
Continued Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Relapsing Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Typhus Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Small-pox ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cholera ..	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Plague ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tuberculosis, P.	74	66	60	55	54	58	44	35	52	52	34
„ Non-P.	28	22	9	—	14	17	12	6	4	10	11
Cerebrospinal Fever ...	—	—	—	3	4	2	2	—	—	—	—
Poliomyelitis ...	2	—	4	3	—	1	—	—	—	—	3
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	*	2	2	1	3	2	3	3	1	3	3
Measles and Rubella ...	*	*	*	429	743	620	159	570	44	590	82
Encephalitis Lethargica ...	*	*	*	*	*	*	2	1	5	—	2
Polio encephalitis	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	—	—	—	—
Malaria ...	*	*	*	*	*	*	18	12	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	*	*	*	*	*	*	1	1	—	—	—
Trench Fever	*	*	*	*	*	*	3	1	—	—	—
Pneumonia ...	*	*	*	*	*	*	67	35	34	29	26
Anthrax ...	*	*	*	*	*	*	—	—	—	—	—

* Not Notifiable.

DIPHTHERIA.

The District showed a comparative freedom from Diphtheria throughout the year; a small number only of sporadic cases occurred.

The number of cases notified during the year was 20, of which